

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 13 and 15-23 are currently being cancelled.

No claims are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 1-12, 14 and 24 remain pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication in the Office Action that claims 1-12, 14 and 24, the only claims presently pending, are allowed.

Amendments to the Specification:

The specification has been amended to correct two minor grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.

Objection to Claim 18:

In the Office Action, claim 18 was objected to because it failed to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Due to the cancellation of claim 18, this objection is now moot.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 13 and 15-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,280,544 to Fox et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,867,714 to Hohberger et al. Due to the cancellation of claims 13 and 15-23, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion:

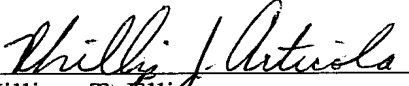
Since all of the issues raised in the final Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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